

Remarks

In the final office action, the Examiner allowed 47 and 50, and the Examiner maintained rejections of the remaining claims 29-32, 34-40, and 54-61.

In the preceding office action (mailed November 22, 2005), the Examiner had objected to claim 33 as depending from rejected base claim 29 but indicated that claim 33 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In response, Applicant cancelled claim 33 and wrote the limitations of claim 33 into claim 29. However, Applicant wrote the limitations into the preamble of claim 29 rather than into the body of claim 29, as Applicant felt that the preamble was an appropriate place for the limitations. In the final office action, however, the Examiner asserted that including the limitations in the preamble did not amount to including the limitations in the base claim, since the Examiner asserted that the preamble is not considered a limitation of the claim. Thus the Examiner maintained the rejection of the claim (now claim 29).

On April 4, 2006, the undersigned held a brief telephone interview with the Examiner, during which we discussed moving the former claim 33 limitations to the body of claim 29 instead. The Examiner asked Applicant to do so in a formal response, so that the Office can enter the change. By the present response, Applicant has now done so.

Applicant submits that claim 29 now includes the limitations of claim 33 and thus recites a combination of elements that the Examiner indicated would be allowable. Thus, Applicant submits that claim 29 is now allowable. Further, claims 30-32, 34-40, and 54-61 all depend ultimately from claim 29 and are thus allowable for at least the same reason that claim 29 is allowable.

Given that the Examiner has already allowed claims 47 and 50, and given that claims 29-32, 34-40, and 54-61 are allowable as well, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of this case, and passage of the case to issuance.

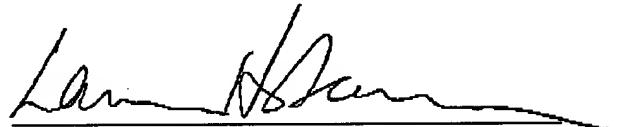
Should the Examiner wish to discuss any aspect of the application, the Examiner is welcome to call the undersigned at (312) 913-2141.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: April 7, 2006

By:


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